BURSLEDON WINDMILL JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Wednesday, 30 November 2005 (2:00 pm – 2:56 pm)

The meeting was held at the Civic Offices, Leigh Road, Eastleigh

PRESENT:

Representing Eastleigh Borough Council - Councillor Airey

Representing Hampshire County Council - Councillors Broadhurst and Davidovitz

Gavin Bowie - Curator, Bursledon Windmill
Chris Edwards - County Museums and Archives Service
Peter James - County Museums and Archives Service
Martin Coulson - Area Co-ordinator
Mr Brown - Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust
Mrs Sutton - Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Pepper and Councillor Wright and from Mr Egleston (Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust)

It was reported that County Councillor Broadhurst had recently replaced County Councillor Davies-Dear on the Committee.

39. APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED -

That County Councillor Broadhurst be appointed Chairman of the Committee for the year 2005/06.

40. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 21 SEPTEMBER 2005

The minutes of the meeting held on 21 September 2005 were agreed as a correct record, subject to (a) Minute 32 being amended to read “That, in the absence of County Council members, the appointment of a Chairman be deferred until the next meeting”; (b) Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust representatives being recorded as present separately from officers; and (c) Peter James' title being amended to read Head of Operations.

Matters arising:

Minute 36: Future Guided Tour of the Windmill: The Curator reported that a letter had been received from Mr Egleston suggesting that a relaunch of the Windmill be organised following the refurbishment work. As the Committee had proposed at the previous meeting that the suggested guided tour of the Windmill take place on 5 April 2006, with a meeting of the JMC, this date was also suggested for the relaunch. A meeting of the Eastleigh Museum
Joint Management Committee could also be held on this date to tie in with the relaunch. County Council staff undertook to organise the relaunch and to issue invitations as appropriate. The timings for the two Joint Management Committees would be agreed at a later date.

Minute 38: Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust: Reference was made to future representation on the Committee by Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust board members, as both Mr Brown and Mr Egleston were standing down at the December 2005 meeting. A vote of thanks was proposed in respect of Mr Brown’s service to the Windmill over the last approximately thirty years.

41. CURATOR’S REPORT

The Curator introduced his report, which contained the visitor figures and an update on events and activities during the period end of September to end of November 2005.

Reference was made to the strength of winds noted recently. On one occasion gusts had been recorded of 65 mph. It was confirmed that the County had responsibility for ensuring that the Windmill was insured and that arrangements were made through the Hampshire Buildings Preservation Trust with Zurich Municipal. A detailed discussion took place concerning the fire potential at the site and it was confirmed that fire safety provision was to be reviewed over the next year and that a detailed risk assessment was to be a future requirement. The Committee requested that a report be brought to the November 2006 meeting, to include details of both risk assessment and the frequency of electrical installation checks.

Visitor numbers were very similar to those of the same period the previous year. The Windmill had been closed for repair and repainting between 5 September and 18 October, although the Barn and the remainder of the site had opened for visitors at weekends. There had been six school visits since the last Committee, two of which had been for children with Special Needs.

Milling had been restarted on 21 October and a stock of flour had been built up since then. Two tons of 2004 Hereward milling wheat was in hand, but the unusual weather conditions at the end of July had spoil the 2005 crop. A trial was being made of one ton of organic wheat from Warren Field Farm, near Andover. The Oven Door at Fair Oak was a new customer of the Windmill flour, and was baking a biscuit with wholemeal flour.

The renovation works had been completed and, in response to a query, it was confirmed that carpentry costs had totalled approximately £10,000. The total cost of the renovations would be reported at a future meeting. The Committee thanked all the bodies which had both contributed funds and carried out the work.

RESOLVED -
(1) That the report be noted; and

(2) That a report be brought to the November 2006 meeting concerning fire safety provision at the Windmill.

42. REVENUE BUDGET 2006/07

Consideration was given to a report of the Director, County Museums and Archives Service, which outlined progress with the current year’s budget and also provided a forward estimate for 2006/07.

Monitoring of the current year’s budget at this stage indicated that it would be possible to manage within the agreed cash limit.

The estimate for 2006/07 was £55,800, which was an increase of £1,800 on the 2005/06 budget. This was due to the cost of repricing the budget to take account of inflation of 4.2% on pay, and 2.5% on other prices expected during the year ending March 2007. This was a cash limit and the budget was to be managed within this figure, with no further inflation allocation being made during the year. Members noted that the balance between spending on salaries, and supplies and services had changed significantly in next year’s budget. This was better to reflect the staffing costs of running the Windmill, which had been understated in the past.

RESOLVED -

That the budget required to maintain the current levels of service be noted and approved and that the constituent authorities be notified of the required contributions.

43. DATE AND VENUE OF NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting would take place on 5 April 2006 at the Windmill. Time to be advised, pending arrangements for the relaunch of the Windmill.

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